nursing staff, particularly those on night duty to carefully verify the cross matching report and cross check from the blood bank before initiating blood transfusion.

(iii) Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for requisition of blood units by the clinicians should be prepared and followed scrupulously.

Non-functioning of equipment in Burns Deptt. of Safdarjung Hospital

508. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HEATH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a number of machines and equipment fitted in the ICU of Safdarjung Hospital's Burns Department are not functioning properly with the result the patients have been suffering; and

(b) if so, since when these equipments have been lying idle and by when these will start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) All the machines are working in ICU of Burn Department of Safdarjung Hospital except on parameter, *i.e.* blood pressure of the two monitors which are managed manually by blood pressure instruments. The repair of the above parameter is under process.

Procurement of banned medicine of cough

†509. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of HEATH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the officers of his Ministry have procured spurious and banned medicine of cough despite objections made by Members of Parliament, C.G.H.S. beneficiaries and officers of Kendriya Bhandar;

(b) if so, the amount with the number of bottles of medicine procured and the names of the officers who have overlooked the objections of all persons including that of members of Parliament; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the action Government would take to return this medicine, recover the amount and take action against the officers involved in this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) No such case of objection has come to the notice of the Government. Medical Store Organizations which is the procurement agency of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare does not procure spurious or banned medicine. Before accepting for supply, samples from every batch of medicines is sent for test to two Government approved laboratories. Only after the test report is satisfactory, medicine is procured for supply.

However, there has been a particular case of Syrup Kodryl (medicine for cough) which had been banned for one year, from 19.7.2002 to 18.7.2001. After that period was over, this medicine was again permitted for procurement. During the period of ban, no supply was obtained of this particular drug.

Proposal for amendment in the new Health Policy

510. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of HEATH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has participated in the recently concluded 55th General Assembly of W.H.O. at Geneva;

(b) if so, the main outcome of the meeting;

(c) whether Government propose to make amendments in new Health Policy keeping in view the recommendations made by the General Assembly of W.H.O.;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. India had participated in the fifty-fifth World Health Assembly held in May, 2002 in Geneva. Indian delegation was led by the Minister of Health and Family Welfare. After receipt of the proceedings of the fifty-fifth World Health Assembly, necessary action will be initiated.